

Best Mattresses of 2020

Take your pick of the top adjustable air, innerspring, and foam mattresses from CR's tests

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Last updated: April 07, 2020

Buying a new mattress can be a headache because it's difficult to separate the marketing hype from a mattress's attributes.

"There are so many mattresses out there that claim a layer of this and a layer of that, so you might think you're getting a superior product," says Christopher Regan, who oversees CR's mattress tests. "Our testing separates the good mattresses from the subpar."

To make those distinctions, Consumer Reports gauges firmness and measures precisely how much support each mattress provides to people of different sizes, whether they sleep on their back or on their side.

Below, CR members can read ratings and reviews of top-rated picks from each of the three types of mattresses we test: adjustable air, innerspring, and foam.

How We Test Mattresses

At CR we buy and test queen-size mattresses from well-known brands such as Beautyrest, Sealy, Serta, Stearns & Foster, and Tempur-Pedic, and from relatively new players including Avocado, Casper, Leesa, Reverie, Tuft & Needle, and more.

Using lab equipment and human subjects, we evaluate how well a mattress supports the body for both back and side sleepers, how easily sleepers can shift their weight without disturbing a partner, and how well the mattress keeps its shape over time.

To simulate the typical eight- to 10-year useful life span of a mattress, we conduct a test in which a 308-pound roller is pushed over each model 30,000 times.

Read on for the details on 11 of CR's top-rated mattresses, based on CR's latest testing. We will update our ratings and this article throughout the year. You can also browse our mattress buying guide and mattress ratings for even more options.

Best Adjustable Air Mattresses

You can inflate each side of these mattresses—meaning each partner can select his or her desired firmness—using a remote control.

1 RECOMMENDED

Sleep Number 360 p6 Smart Bed

81

- AVERAGE BACK SLEEPER
- AVERAGE SIDE SLEEPER
- STABILIZATION

CR's take: This recommended mattress has a firmness rating of 4 on our scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being the firmest, though it can be adjusted to an even softer firmness of 3. It earns a Very Good rating for side sleepers and back sleepers of all sizes but doesn't stand out for any size in particular. It earns an Excellent rating in our stabilization test, meaning you should be able to shift positions with ease.

2 BEST BUY

Sleep Number 360 c2 Smart Bed

80

- AVERAGE BACK SLEEPER
- AVERAGE SIDE SLEEPER
- STABILIZATION

CR's take: This Sleep Number model is an update of an older mattress by the same name, though in our tests we found that its construction had changed. The Sleep Number c2 earns a Very Good rating for side sleepers and back sleepers of all sizes but doesn't stand out for any size in particular. Like the 360 p6, it earns an Excellent rating in our stabilization test, meaning you should be able to shift positions with ease. It's much firmer than the p6, though, with a firmness rating of 7 out of 10 (10 being the firmest).

3 RECOMMENDED

Saatva Solaire

78

- AVERAGE BACK SLEEPER
- AVERAGE SIDE SLEEPER
- STABILIZATION

CR's take: The Solaire mattress by Saatva is only slightly less supportive than the Sleep Number c2, but the manufacturer boasts that this mattress is made with certified organic materials, a plus for those who prefer that their bedding is organic and don't mind the cost. It earns a Very Good rating for all sleep styles and body sizes, and a Very Good score for stabilization.

Best Innerspring Mattresses

These traditional mattresses are composed of steel coils in various configurations. The most widely sold, they also tend to be the least expensive.

1 RECOMMENDED
Avocado Green

85

- AVERAGE BACK SLEEPER
- AVERAGE SIDE SLEEPER
- STABILIZATION

CR's take: The Avocado Green performs superbly in our side-support tests for average and large/tall side sleepers and in back-support tests for petite, average, and large/tall side sleepers, earning a rating of Excellent. The Avocado is made of recycled steel pocket innersprings, and has latex foam padding and a certified organic cotton cover. It's not as stable as some other mattresses in our tests, though. If you sleep with a restless partner you don't like a lot of bounce, this mattress might not be the one for you.

2 RECOMMENDED
Casper The Casper Hybrid

84

- AVERAGE BACK SLEEPER
- AVERAGE SIDE SLEEPER
- STABILIZATION

CR's take: Petite back sleepers have a lot to like about the Casper's The Casper Hybrid innerspring mattress: It earns an Excellent rating in that test. In our support tests for all other side and back sleepers, this mattress earns a Very Good score, making it a versatile bed. The mattress showed little wear after eight to 10 years of simulated use, and it's top-notch at muting vibrations, meaning there's little bouncing from across the bed. The Casper Hybrid isn't a very firm mattress, earning a 3 out of 10 (with 10 being the firmest), but if you prefer a softer innerspring mattress, this is a terrific option.

3 RECOMMENDED
Ethan Allen EA Signature Platinum Plush

83

- AVERAGE BACK SLEEPER
- AVERAGE SIDE SLEEPER
- STABILIZATION

CR's take: A new mattress to our ratings, the Ethan Allen EA Signature Platinum Plush is made of a combination of silk, wool, cotton, gel, and latex foams padded on top of innerspring coils. It's a great option for petite sleepers: It earns an Excellent rating in our petite side and back support tests. For average and large/tall sleepers of all sizes, this mattress earns a Very Good rating for support. It holds up extremely well after eight to 10 years of simulated use. At 15 inches high, this is a very tall mattress, so you'll need a deep-pocket fitted sheet to cover it completely.

4 BEST BUY
Beautyrest BR-800 12" Medium Firm

80

- AVERAGE BACK SLEEPER
- AVERAGE SIDE SLEEPER
- STABILIZATION

CR's take: This Beautyrest is the least expensive mattress at the top of our ratings. It offers great support to back sleepers of all sizes, earning Excellent scores across the board. This mattress comes with a layer of Beautyrest's proprietary foam called AirCool, meant to move heat and moisture away from the body. In our tests, we found that it didn't retain heat. It showed little wear after eight to 10 years of simulated use, and it's top-notch at muting vibrations, meaning there's little bouncing from across the bed.

Best Foam Mattresses

The most innovation is in the foam mattress category, with a flurry of beds-in-a-box coming on the market.

1 RECOMMENDED
Essentia Stratami

81

- AVERAGE BACK SLEEPER
- AVERAGE SIDE SLEEPER
- STABILIZATION

CR's take: Petite and average back sleepers will appreciate that the Essentia Stratami earns an Excellent rating for support, and petite, average, and large/tall side sleepers will enjoy support that earns a Very Good rating in our tests. The Stratami is quite stable, meaning you'll barely feel vibration and movement across the bed, and it earns an Excellent score for durability, with no changes in performance after eight to 10 years of simulated use. This mattress weighs a hefty 122 pounds and has no grips, so if you're moving it, you may need help.

2 RECOMMENDED
Reverie Dream Supreme II Hybrid Sleep System Firm

81

- AVERAGE BACK SLEEPER
- AVERAGE SIDE SLEEPER
- STABILIZATION

CR's take: The Reverie Dream Supreme Hybrid II comes with more than 204 interchangeable foam "springs" so that you can adjust the firmness of this mattress to your liking. It earns an Excellent rating for petite back sleepers, and a Very Good rating for all other sleeper sizes and sleep styles. In our durability test, this mattress performed excellently, showing no noticeable change in performance. It proved to be very stable, limiting the amount of vibrations felt.

3 BEST BUY
Sleep on Latex Pure Green Firm

81

- AVERAGE BACK SLEEPER
- AVERAGE SIDE SLEEPER
- STABILIZATION

CR's take: At a much lower price than the Essentia Stratami and the Dream Supreme, the Sleep on Latex Pure Green Firm is made of two layers of 100 percent natural latex foam. It gets a 7 in firmness on our scale of 1 to 10, making it one of the firmer options in our ratings (only two models are firmer). In our tests, it earns an Excellent rating for petite, average, and large/tall back sleeper support. For petite, average, and large/tall side sleepers, the Pure Green Firm earns a Very Good rating because the mattress kept test sleepers' spines in reasonably horizontal alignment. This mattress is also extremely durable, holding its shape after eight years of simulated use, earning an Excellent rating on that test.

4 RECOMMENDED
Casper The Casper Original All-Foam

81

- AVERAGE BACK SLEEPER
- AVERAGE SIDE SLEEPER
- STABILIZATION

CR's take: Casper's flagship The Casper foam mattress is a great option for back sleepers, earning Excellent ratings in our back-sleeper support tests for every body size. For side sleepers, this mattress is still a good buy, though it's slightly less supportive for side-sleeping support, with ratings of Very Good for each body size. In our stability tests, this mattress earns a Good rating; sleepers may have trouble shifting on the foam in their sleep. The Casper hits the middle of the road in terms of firmness, earning a 5 on our firmness scale. If you're considering an adjustable bed frame, the Casper is compatible.